

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/618,997

Examiner

Preeti Kumar

Applicant(s)

KANTHIMATHI ET AL.

Art Unit

1751

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 2/13/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-16.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Van Nguyen on April 28, 2006.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

The claims:

In claim 1, step (e) delete "to obtain a compound wherein the sulfonized aromatic compound is polymerized to the multi-functional polymer or polymers;" and replace with –to form an organo-polymeric matrix comprising a sulfonized aromatic compound polymerized to the multi-functional polymer or polymers and wherein the organo-polymeric matrix does not comprise formaldehyde—.

Claims 17 and 18 are cancelled.

Response to Amendment

3. The rejection of claims 1 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, is withdrawn in light of Applicants amendment to the claims and the Examiner's Amendment above.

4. The rejection of claims 1-15 and 17-18 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ebel et al. (US 4,888,412) in view of Sargent et al. (US 5,629,376) is

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withdrawn in light of Applicants amendment to the claims and the Examiner's Amendment above.

5. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lauton (US 5,256,317) is withdrawn in light of Applicants amendment to the claims and the Examiner's Amendment above.

Reasons For Allowance

6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 1-16, are allowable upon consideration of Applicants' arguments, information disclosure statement and consideration of the prior art and upon entry of the Examiner's Amendment above.

The prior art most pertinent to the instant claims is Lauton et al. (US 5,256,317). Lauton et al. teach do not teach or suggest the claimed process of preparing a synthetic organo-polymeric tanning agent free from formaldehyde comprising reacting an aromatic compound with sulfuric acid at the recited temperature range, adding one or more organic ligands, heating the mixture at the recited temperature range, adding one or more multi-functional polymers, heating the mixture at the recited temperature range, to form an organo-polymeric matrix comprising a sulfonized aromatic compound polymerized to the multi-functional polymer or polymers and wherein the organo-polymeric matrix does not comprise formaldehyde.

None of the prior art of record teach or suggest the claimed process of forming a synthetic organo-polymeric tanning agent free from formaldehyde.

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Conclusion


7. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Preeti Kumar whose telephone number is 571-272-1320. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00am - 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Douglas Mc Ginty can be reached on 571-272-1029. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

PK


DOUGLAS MCGINTY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
1751

Preeti Kumar *pk.*
Examiner
Art Unit 1751